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File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S.1. Special Branch

REPORT

Date December 1, 1937

Subject Anatoly Yakovlevitch SCHNEIDER - NAGORSKY alias Anatoly Jacob  
SCHNEIDER-NAGORSKY alias Anatoly Jacob SCHNEIDER.

Made by D.S.I. Laurier

Forwarded by C. Gundold

Anatoly Yakovlevitch Schneider-Nagorsky, who at various times has assumed the above aliases, was born in the Perm District, Russia, into the Russian Orthodox creed, on July 16, 1887. The present whereabouts of his wife (Nee Maria Afanassievna) is not known though she is said to have spent last summer in Chefoo. She is reported to have applied for a divorce from her husband. Mr. Schneider, as he is now known, was a sapper in the Russian Imperial Army during the war, towards the latter end of which he was attached to the headquarters staff of the Russian forces in Harbin. Upon his demobilization in March 1918, he set up in Harbin as a publisher-photographer. He arrived in Shanghai from Harbin in July 1929, taking up residence at apartment 24, 103 Rue Stanislaus Chevalier, later moving to 7 Linda terrace; his last known address being B.7 Rue Lovton. At the time of his arrival in Shanghai, he possessed Chinese passport No. 30195, issued in Harbin on November 27, 1928, by the Special district of Three Eastern Provinces, with Japanese Visa dated July 18, 1929. He has no relatives in Shanghai, speaks good English with a slight accent and was registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee on July 18, 1929.

Towards the end of 1930, he established at 216 Szechuan Road an enterprise known as the Isida Photo Technical Association functioning ostensibly as "Patent Consultants, Publishers, Advertising Consultants, Commission Agents, etc. In 1931, he published a guide to Shanghai, entitled "The Little Blue Book" in connection with which he sent out a series of circular letters soliciting data for inclusion in the guide. Information was received some years ago that Mr. Schneider was a secret

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Soviet Agent and correspondent to the Soviet Magazines "Ogonek" (Glimmer) and "Krasnaia Niva" (Red Harvest) to which he sent photographs and contributed articles on events in China. No confirmation of his Soviet connections was, however, ever obtained.

For the past two years Mr. Schneider has been engaged in the physical research laboratory of the Academia Sinica on Brenan Road.

Mr. Schneider is the inventor of an improvement for intensifying the penetrating power of firearms. The Soviet Government, on learning of this insisted on the surrender of the plans and formulas of this invention and the immediate return to the Soviet Union of the inventor, himself, who was required to place himself and his invention at the disposal of his country. He, however, resisted this order and applied to the French Military for protection, and commenced to carry an automatic pistol for which he obtained a licence from the French Police.

The French Military authorities gave Mr. Schneider free use of their rifle range in the French Concession for the purpose of carrying out tests and in December 1936, Mr. Schneider, together with Mr. C.J. Laval of the Far Eastern Review, whom he had induced to finance the venture, proceeded in company with Lieutenant Boudet, Liaison Officer, to Tientsin where a demonstration was held in which the penetrating power of the improved rifle was proved to be 150% greater than that of the unmodified firearm against which it was tested. The French Military authorities were favourably impressed and forwarded the results of tests to the French War Office who,

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it is believed, rejected the invention for reasons which have not been ascertained. The principle on which the invention is based is stated to be the law of gravity.

Since the negotiations with the French military, Mr. Schneider has taken his invention to the British military authorities in Shanghai, to whom he had demonstrated the invention, particulars of which have been forwarded to the War Office for consideration.

Mr. Schneider seems to have other inventions in hand. He claims to have formed a revolutionary theory on the law of gravity.

Nothing detrimental to Mr. Schneider's character has been found in police records or in the information regarding him which has been obtained from outside sources.

*D. S. I.*

D. S. I. (Special Branch).

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Shanghai Municipal Police  
Headquarters.

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Date 21 May 1937

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All information obtained re to  
undermentioned individual is equal to  
Capt Renzie. Given one in military  
so far object of enquiry has no evidence  
that some misgiving is made.

Scneider or Schneider  
c/o Schneider Laval #3 Box 1158

Ind 4 man at Research Bureau  
Academy & Science St

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21 May 1937